

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /051 W

----- 014026

R 120951Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4361

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC HONOLULU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 4205

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJ: WESTERN DANCING AND GAMBLING BANNED IN LAOS

1. THE VIENTIANE POST REPORTED JUNE 11 THAT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAS ISSUED A NOTICE ORDERING THE CLOSURE OF "ALL" NIGHT CLUBS ("BARS-DANCING") THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM. VIENTIANE'S DEPUTY MAYOR, TAN AVONG VORABOUTH, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THE ORDER WAS ISSUED BECAUSE THESE CLUBS CAUSE TOO MUCH NOISE AND "DO NOT CONFORM WITH LAO WAYS AND CUSTOMS." THE CLOSING WILL BE SPREAD OUT OVER A TWO-MONTH PERIOD AND EVEN THE BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT IN TOWN, TAN DAO VIEN, HAS BEEN ORDERED TO END ITS "WESTERN DANCES". (BARS WHERE THE LAO "LAMVONG" IS DANCED WILL BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE OPEATIONS, BUT THEY MAY ONLY BE OPEN TWO OR THREE NIGHTS A WEEK AND ANYONE IN THE BAR WOULD HAVE TO WEAR TRADITIONAL LAO GARB.)

2. IN ADDITION, THE INTERIOR MINISTRY HAS ORDERED A NATIONWIDE BAN ON THE SALE OF ALL FORMS OF GAMBLING EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING PLAYING CARDS AND DICE) AND AN END TO GAMBLING ITSELF. SUCH A BAN, ACCORDING TO THE DECREE, IS A RESULT OF THE "NEW SITUATION" IN LAOS AND AIMS

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TO "PRESERVE THE GOOD MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE LAO PEOPLE".

3. WHILE THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO MOVE BY THE LAO GOVERNMENT TO CENSOR READING MATERIAL, AS IN SOUTHVIETNAM, IT HAS BEEN NOTED THAT THE TWO "BOOKSTORES" IN TOWN WHICH SPECIALIZE IN THE SALE OF MAGAZINES SUCH AS "PLAYBOY" AND "OUI" HAVE PRUDENTLY PUT THEIR STOCKS AWAY.

4. COMMENT: VIENTIANE -- UNDER LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT DOMINATION -- IS NO LONGER FUN CITY EAST.  
CHAPMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, BUSINESS FIRMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975VIENTI04205  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750205-0012  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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